

**CIO Recommendation to the Information Technology Investment Board  
for  
Project Development Approval**

**Agency:** Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA)




**Project Title:** Virginia Secure Network Project (VITANet)

**Project Summary:** The Virginia Information Technologies Agency was created July 1, 2003 and assigned the responsibility of managing and securing the Commonwealth's technology infrastructure for in-scope agencies. Currently the agencies' networks are decentralized, non-standard configurations which vary in the level of vulnerability to security threats. Moreover, the administration of decentralized networks is highly duplicative in nature and costly. The proposed VITANet solution is an enabling infrastructure upgrade that will transform how technology services are delivered to the agencies and citizens of the Commonwealth. The purpose of the VITANet project is to implement a standard, secure network environment which can be managed centrally to ensure stability, reliability and security for all in-scope agencies. VITANet will provide a common network infrastructure in the VITA Operations Center with connectivity to the networks of VITA in-scope agencies and customers. VITANet will be secured using industry best practices and offer several levels of security to accommodate application requirements. VITANet will have full redundancy and failover data paths in addition to full backup facilities at VITA's Sungard site in Pennsylvania. The project is cost justified by tangible benefits from cost avoidance and will bring VITA in compliance with APA SAS 70 security evaluation criteria.

The total estimated project cost is \$2,689,000 and will be funded in FY04 with Non-general Funds (Internal Service Funds) and appropriated General Funds. FY05 funding will come from Non-general Funds (Internal Service Funds).

The CIO granted Planning Approval for VITANet as a component of the VITA Operating Plan submitted to the General Assembly on August 31, 2003. The Technology Oversight Committee reviewed the project proposal and charter on January 23, 2004, and recommended the project be approved for development.

**Evaluation Summary:** *(A Detailed Balanced Scorecard Project Evaluation is attached.)*

Criteria	Summary	Score
Stakeholder Perspective	The VITANet project will implement a network infrastructure with improved security and controls. The VITANet positions VITA and the Commonwealth to increase access to government services through future projects such as e-mail consolidation, application integration, and a common citizen portal. The project is cost justified based on tangible cost avoidance.	
Business Process Perspective	The proposed VITANet project objectives are highly synchronized with VITA's mission and legal mandate to consolidate IT infrastructure in the Commonwealth. VITANet will reduce the use of resources required to troubleshoot network and firewall problems and improve connectivity and data security between the VITA Operations Center and customer agencies.	
Project Management Perspective	A sound business case and adequate project baselines are presented in the VITANet project proposal. Although the overall Project Management Perspective is rated as green, the	

	named project manager is not registered as a qualified Commonwealth Project Manager.	
Financial and Economic Perspective	The proposed investment results in a positive return from cost avoidance. Substantial intangible and indirect benefits are identified and substantiated. With the Commonwealth infrastructure consolidation, VITA assumes responsibility for the networks of in-scope agencies which are not currently compliant with APA recommendations and newly adopted VITA standards. Implementation of VITANet will provide chronically underserved business areas with improved network services and security.	<b>G</b>
Enterprise Portfolio Perspective	The proposed VITANet will facilitate infrastructure consolidation through improved performance, connectivity, and security of the network and facilitate data exchange between agencies and application integration.	<b>G</b>

**CIO Recommendation:** That the ITIB grant Development Approval for the VITA Virginia Secure Network Project (VITANet) and authorize the Chairman of the ITIB to approve the project charter on behalf of the Board.




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Cheryl F. Clark, Acting CIO

January 30, 2004

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